No. 527.

Leicester,
Nov. 16/65.

Dear M^c Kim. Rev. S. May, Jr.

168 Yrs. of 13th. only came to hand yesterday. I am very glad that you liked the sentiments, &c. of my article in last week's Liberator, & thank you for so cordially telling me so. I hope you will not dislike one on "Good faith with the freedmen", - which will, (or should,) be in this week's paper. — I am dong a little in Lib., because Mr. Garrison desired Frank to say to me that, if I had anything to say in "Lib." in his absence, he would like to have me say it. It has piked me much to have the Liberator show itself just as it has the last 6 months, — & I know that very many have felt so. Mr. Garrison has written very little indeed for it, — less than ever, I think. He had one capital article, "Be of good Cheer", - & there has been little else of his distinctive mind & thought in it. But, as you say, "C. K. W." has constantly been

there, — with very good & needful articles & lectures (as in his first article on Pres. Johnson's address to the Colored Soldiers, which was paltry, shabby — the "Address" I mean —) but strewn with a one-sided, bigoted, narrow criticism (as it seemed to me), which I should have disliked anywhere, but, finding it in the editorial columns of the Liberator, & knowing its actual editor would express himself far otherwise, I was altogether vexed about it. W. K. W. has had the use of the edit. columns of the "Lib," and full opportunity to lead, or mislead, as he might; — which I couldn't bear to have so, in the last closing days of the Liberator's career, — Pity 'tis so, — but I suppose it can't be helped.

And now to the question of F.J.G. I am glad you are thinking of him, for he is a true & worthy man; — abolitionist for 30 years, renouncing sect & a fair position, & taking up the Cudgels when he believed them wrong & profane; against all Baptistry, or Baptist dom ↑ Sincere, bold, earnest, unsparing, & one who has followed truth in its successive developements,

sticking fast in no rôle, but hailing the advent of every new & important idea & thought, which promised to help forward the work of liberty. He is a poor man, for conscience' sake, — & deserves well of all friends of freedom. Per contra, he is no financier, — never was a very successful Hector (to be sure Abolitionists had no fat fields to glean in, & his acquaintance & association were ever more with the "common people" (so to call them), than with the wealthier & those who held themselves more apart.) He is no hand at figures, — but his small mistakes have quite as often been against himself, as otherwise. But he is a man of good plain sense & honesty. Should you commission him, I should suggest requiring of him a weekly statement of receipts reported to you (made up, for instance, every Monday) with particulars of name, place, & exact amount. A little overseeing by you, in that way, of his accounts, & would keep him along right in the point where he has the least faculty — where alone, I might

Say,

he is wanting. With a more popular cause, & going among a larger & abler class, he might (I think would) retrieve his reputation as a Collector.

As for his field, New Hampshire is not it. Is it a good field for anybody to raise much money in, or find much heart, for humane work? Vermont I think very well of — he has been a good deal there — is known to its abolitionists, & others. I think he would do as well there as anywhere — relatively speaking. Maine would be a good field for him, — where he has been a good deal, — & where, I suppose, there is more money for him; — Many parts of Mass. would do well — indeed nearly the whole of it, excepting perhaps a few of the larger Cities.

I have no call to advise in this case, I wish to tell you the exact pros. & cons. I would be glad to have the good Fop in your employ. Duly instructed, his field well chosen, and his work ~~pretty often~~ inspected, (not from any distrust in his uprightness, — not the least, — but from his business-deficiencies, which make it undesirable to have much work of the sort accumulate in his hands) I believe he would serve you well.

Love to you & all your house, & a happy wedding for Lucy.

Yours,

Wm. L. Garrison

Wm. L. Garrison, May 31.